



File Code: 1620

Date: April 7, 2014

Dear Interested Party:

The Decision Notice (DN), Appendices and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Red Mountain Flume Chessman Reservoir Project are now available for your review. They are posted on the Helena National Forest's website at www.fs.fed.us/helena/projects.

In selecting activities associated with my decision and described in this DN, I have considered the comments received during public participation, and the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of implementing this project as disclosed in the EA. In particular, the interests of local residents, governments, and businesses in the City of Helena, Fort Harrison, and others that rely on this source of water were critical in guiding the development of this project and in making my decision.

A non-significant Forest Plan amendment for hiding cover on summer range and the open road density/hiding cover ratio during the hunting season (Standards 3 and 4(a) Forest Plan p. II/17), is included in this decision.

To ensure the success of this project's purpose and to manage the multiple resources found in the project area, design features and best management practices (mitigations) are also part of this decision.

Thus, I have concluded that the actions along the Red Mountain flume and around Chessman Reservoir, as described, reduce the likelihood of physical damage to the municipal watershed infrastructure in the event of a wildfire or from falling hazardous trees. My decision constitutes the final administrative determination for this project. The procedures and due process were presented and applied representing a full and fair opportunity for concerns to be raised and considered regarding this project. Implementation is anticipated to occur in the late spring or early summer of 2014.

For future contacts, please call Heather DeGeest-Helena District Ranger at (406) 449-5490.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM AVEY
Forest Supervisor

